

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is meant to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed January 5, 2005. In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species-I: Figures [As represented by independent claims 1, 7 and 11 and their respective dependent claims]; broadly, a plant cover comprising a bonding material constructed of a heat shrinkable material, (the corresponding figures are requested of the Applicant).

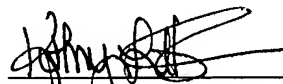
Species-II: Figures [As represented by independent claims 15 and 35 and their respective dependent claims]; broadly, an initially flattened and tapered plant cover having first and second edge joined panels comprising at least two connected layers of material per panel, (the corresponding identifying figures are requested of the Applicant).

Applicant respectfully elects Species-II, and claims 15-54 readable thereon. The Examiner also requested that the Applicant identify the figures corresponding to the particular Species. In the case of Species-II, any of the sleeves shown in the figures of the subject application could meet the claim limitations of claims 15-54, i.e., a sleeve having a flattened condition and

openable to expose an inner retaining space, at least a portion of the sleeve being tapered, the sleeve having a first panel, a second panel, a first side edge and a second side edge, and at least a portion of at least one of the first and second panels comprising at least two layers of material wherein at least a portion of the at least two layers of material are connected. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the corresponding figures for Species-II (and thus claims 15-54 readable thereon) are Figures 1-86.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the before-mentioned amendments to the application or any other matter, Applicant's agent will welcome the opportunity to discuss the same with the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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